Subject	IMPORTANT: New Admissions TJJD
From	Lou Serrano
То	Juvenile Probation Counties
Sent	Tuesday, April 7, 2020 1:25 PM

Good Afternoon:

We wanted to follow-up with the probation departments regarding new admission procedures being implemented at TJJD. Although many jurisdictions have postponed court proceedings, our work continues in many jurisdictions and we want to thank you for all your efforts in response to COVID-19.

Effective Monday, April 13, 2020, we are requesting that new admissions to TJJD be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance with our Orientation & Assessment Unit. To schedule, please contact Ruth Thompson, 325-641-6483, or Rachel Watson, 325-641-6481. Many of you have already been communicating with them about Court Orders and arrival times. This will assist us in limiting the number of people we are allowed to have in the gatehouse area at any one time, and allow facility staff, including medical staff, to better screen and provide appropriate screening of new admissions. Also, if you know you have a youth that will be transported later this week and feel you have enough time to schedule, please start this process now. Any amount of time you can schedule your transport between now and the effective date will greatly assist us.

On March 19th we provided guidance to the field on the medical screening for youth at least 12 hours prior to transport, and that youth will not be admitted into our Orientation & Assessment Unit if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 or the flu. Along with this, we have been asked by a few departments about the process involved in the event your youth is denied admission due to active symptoms, illness, or appearing to be in need of immediate medical care. You will be directed to seek immediate medical attention for the youth, and the youth that is denied admission will be placed on hold for a 14-day period (per CDC guidelines for quarantine) and/or submission of COVID-19 test indicating the child is negative. Over the past two weeks, we have not received any youth that we were concerned about regarding possible symptoms and expect that the screening being conducted prior to transport will continue, thus limiting the need to take such action.

Thank you for all of your diligent efforts in keeping the health of the youth this system serves your top priority.

Louis Serrano
Deputy Executive Director for Probation Services
Texas Juvenile Justice Department
11209 Metric Blvd. Building H, Suite A
Austin, TX 78758
512.490.7991 | louis.serrano@tijd.texas.gov